

XI.—COMMITTEE VI: DRAFTING AND CO-ORDINATING

Chairman : Dr H. V. EVATT (*Australia*)

New Zealand Representatives

Rt Hon. W. NASH

Mr G. R. LAKING

84. Committee VI was faced with the task of co-ordinating the material forwarded by other Committees and drafting a Constitution for the Commission.

85. Thus, the work of this Committee had, of necessity, to be postponed pending the determination of policy considerations by other Committees. Nevertheless, the work of the Committee was greatly facilitated by the fact that members were in constant touch with the work of all Committees, and it was, therefore, possible quite early to begin the labour of co-ordination and drafting.

86. Preliminary drafting was undertaken by Professor Bailey (Australia), and Mr Moffat (U.S.A.), and the production of a draft constitution ensured that there would be no delay in agreeing to the Final Act.

87. The Committee was, however, not entirely concerned with the reports of other Committees, but also had to consider such questions as the signature of the final document and the entry into force of the Agreement. In connection with the latter point, the New Zealand delegate said that he was anxious to avoid the possibility of undue delay, and made the suggestion that the Australian and New Zealand Governments might under-write preliminary expenditure on the understanding that there would be inserted in the Agreement a clause to the effect that any such expenditure, properly incurred, could subsequently be ratified by the Commission if and when the Agreement had been accepted by all six Governments.

88. Committee VI, having concluded its task in a remarkably short time considering the number of complexities which existed, was able to present to the Plenary Session its final report on 6 February. There were certain observations in connection with the text of the Agreement which the Committee desired to place on record. These were as follows:—

“The Committee has not included any specific provision empowering the Commission to accept funds from non-governmental organizations for the furtherance of its work generally or for specific projects, believing that the Commission will have this power without specific reference.